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FORM PTO-1449 DOCKET NO./ATTY. APPLICATION NO. 32638/WPC/A97 09/081,926 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT APPLICANT Conrad, et al. FILING DATE **GROUP** (Use several sheets if necessary) May 20, 1998 1634 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS FILING DATE **EXAMINER** DOCUMENT **ISSUE** INITIAL NUMBER DATE **PATENTEE CLASS** SUBCLASS **APPROPRIATE** Whalen et al. 435 Peddada et al. 435 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION DOCUMENT **PUBLICATION COUNTRY OR** NUMBER DATE PATENT OFFICE CLASS **SUBCLASS** YES NO OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) Garcia, et al., Evaluation of a Pooling-Method for Routine Anti-HCV Screening of Blood Donors to Lower the Cost Burden on Blood Banks in Countries Under Development, Journal of Medical Virology, Vol. 49, No. 3, July 1996. Nübling, et al., Virus Testing of Plasma Pools and Blood Products by Nucloic Acid Amplification, Hämostaseologie, R.K. Schattauer Verlagsgeselischatt mbH 1996: 16:274-6 J. Saldanha and P. Minor, A Sensitive PCR Method for Detecting HCV RNA in Plasma Pools, Blood Products, and Single Donations, Journal of Medicine Virology 43:72-76 (1994). J. Saldanha, Assays for Viral Sequences and Their Value in Validation of Viral Elimination, Brown F(ed): Virological Safety Aspects of Plasma Derivatives. Dev Biol Stand. Basel. Karger. 1999. vol 81: pp 231-236. J. Saldanha and P. Minor, Collaborative Study to Assess the Suitability of an HCV RNA Reference Sample for -Detection of an HCV RNA in Plasma Pools by PCR, Vox Sanguinis International Journal of Transfusion Medicine, 1996:70:148-151. J. Saldanha and P. Minor, Detection of human parvevirus B19 DNA in plasma pools and blood products derived from these pools: implications for officioncy and consistency of removal of B19 DNA during manufacture, British Journal of Haematology, 1996, 93, 714-719. J. Saldanha and P. Minor, Incidence of Hepatitic C Virus RNA in Anti-HCV-Negative Plasma Pools and Blood Producto, Vox Sanguinio International Journal of Transfusion Medicine, 1996; 70:232-234. Zeijlemaker, et al., MEETING REPORT, EPFA-NIESC Workshop on Nucleie Acid Amplification Assays and Plasma Products' 23 November, 1994, Helsinki, Finland, @ 1995 The International Association of Biological Standardisation, Biologicale 23, pp 317-326. **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.